

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
SECTION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY

3601 C STREET, SUITE 540  
P.O. BOX 240249  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99524-0249

**FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR**

INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
AIDS/STD  
TUBERCULOSIS (907) 269-8000  
IMMUNIZATION (907) 562-7802  
CHRONIC DISEASES  
DIABETES  
INJURY CONTROL

June 16, 2004

Dear Alaska Immunization Provider:

The Alaska Immunization Program remains committed to supporting a universal vaccine distribution program to assure all Alaska children have the opportunity to receive adequate protection against vaccine-preventable diseases. To maintain this program in the future, however, we must increase our vaccine accountability requirements and emphasize methods to reduce vaccine wastage.

### The numbers speak for themselves –

<b>\$6,000,000</b>	Cost of vaccines the Alaska Immunization Program provided free-of-charge to Alaska providers during 2003
<b>\$500,000</b>	Cost of vaccines wasted by Alaska providers in 2003 due to mishandling or expiration
<b>\$513</b>	Cost for the Alaska Immunization Program to purchase all vaccines recommended for one child through school entry (see attachment for details)
<b>\$824</b>	Cost for a private provider to purchase the same vaccines on the open market

Enclosed for your review and signature is the **2004/2005 Provider Certification Form** required by the Alaska Immunization Program for continued receipt of state-supplied vaccine. **PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE REQUIREMENTS BEFORE SIGNING THE FORM.**

### What's new?

- **Monthly vaccine ordering**

- The formerly used quarterly ordering system increased the amount of vaccine stored in a refrigerator at any one time, so a larger amount of vaccine was lost if, for example, the refrigerator failed.
- Monthly ordering applies to providers who routinely stock more than \$1,000 of vaccine. Providers who maintain smaller vaccine inventories may simply order as needed.

- **Information required with each monthly order**

- Current vaccine inventory
- Vaccine Usage Report
- Vaccine Wastage Report
- Copy of current temperature logs for refrigerators/freezers used for main vaccine storage

**Note:** Please discard blank vaccine ordering, usage, and wastage reports dated prior to 06/10/2004.

- **Estimates of your client population by age group**

- This information is required for Alaska's continued receipt of federally purchased vaccines and will be used to develop your anticipated monthly vaccine use.
- The information will be maintained confidentially within the Immunization Program.

**What's the same?**

Continuing requirements and procedures are detailed on the enclosed *2004/2005 Alaska Vaccine Distribution Program Requirements*. **Please be sure to review all of the program requirements.**

The *Provider Certification Form* and the *Provider Survey* are the only materials that must be returned. All other forms and information sheets should be retained for your reference.

Please return the Form and Survey by **July 23, 2004** to:

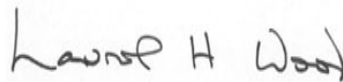
**Alaska Immunization Program - Vaccine Depot**  
**9210 Vanguard Drive, Suite 102A**  
**Anchorage, Alaska 99507**

**Attention: Debbie Wiegele**  
**Phone: (907) 341-2202 Fax: (907) 341-2228**

<p><b>Please note: Vaccine orders received after <i>JULY 23, 2004</i> will be deferred until the 2004/2005 Physician Certification Form has been received.</b></p>
--

Thank you for your immediate attention to these registration requirements and for your understanding of the need to increase Alaska's vaccine accountability. We appreciate your efforts to help ensure all Alaska children have ready access to vaccines at no charge to the patient.

Sincerely,



Laurel H. Wood  
Immunization Program Manager

**Enclosures:**

- 1) The High Cost of Vaccinating One Child
- 2) Alaska Vaccine Distribution Program Requirements
- 3) 2004/2005 Provider Certification Form
- 4) Provider Survey
- 5) Countertop Display Sign
- 6) Vaccine Order Form
- 7) Vaccine Usage Report
- 8) Vaccine Return Form
- 9) Refrigerator/Freezer Temperature Logs
- 10) Planning for Vaccine Storage in the Event of a Power Failure
- 11) VAERS Forms
- 12) Vaccine Information Statements (VIS)